

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held

Thursday, March 11, 2021

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CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Work Session to order at 6:02 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Council attendance was as follows: Ms. Campbell, present; Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, present; Ms. Fry, present; Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Teaford, present; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present was as follows: Mark Carpenter, City Manager; Chris Lohr, Assistant City Manager; Tom Garrett, Finance Director; Chief Dan Stitzel, Fire Department; Chief Frank Robinson, Police Department; Kathy Bartlett, Public Service Director; Gary Burkholder, Community Development Director; and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: No council members were absent.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: There were no additions or corrections to the amended agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Denning motioned to approve the agenda. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed. **Motion carried.**

WORK SESSION ITEMS:

Vacant Property Ordinance/Pro-Champs – Mr. Gary Burkholder stated that Mr. Stan Urban of Pro-Champs will review what they covered a year ago regarding a vacant property ordinance that includes foreclosed properties. He will also cover rental registrations as well. Copies of sample ordinances were sent to council and will be sent to legal counsel for review incorporating any changes council may have. Mr. Burkholder recommends going to twice a year renewal and registration so the data is more current for the city.

Mr. Urban began by stating the City of Riverside will never receive a bill from Pro-Champs. Additionally, when it relates to foreclosures or vacancies, there will never be a fee directly attached to a resident. All fees go to the banks and cannot be passed on to the resident. Long term rental registration, which he will cover later, is different as Pro-Champs cannot control a local resident from passing a fee on to an apartment rental. It doesn't happen often, but it does happen. He presented an example using Forest Park, OH, to show a dashboard with foreclosures and vacancies. He showed the number of registered properties, the fees associated with that and the money paid to the municipality. He reviewed the program and the information they collect that city staff would have access to utilize. They do not go into the city's data. He stated that the city staff who use the program will be able to find out when it was inspected, who the legal agent is, and contacts. The contacts link provides a large amount of information. Staff will know who the bank used to register the property, the email, and the address. They will also know the bank that holds the mortgage and their contact information along with the asset manager information. Most importantly is the property manager information. He showed where code enforcement can enter information on a property and upload photos and information for any violations. There is a send button which will then get the code enforcement information sent to each person listed under the contacts.

Mr. Urban stated there is no catch to all this information as they bill the banks and the property owners. Pro-Champs retains \$125 of whatever fee the city imposes as the fee. They recommend charging \$325 semi-annually. Pro-Champs will receive \$125 and then forwards \$200 to the city. He stated there are currently 40 foreclosed properties active in Riverside. There are an additional 61 potential foreclosures only because of COVID-19. If they just collect 40, that will bring \$16,000 to Riverside. Vacancies are much higher; there are over 200 vacancies in Riverside that have been identified. That would bring \$80,000 for passing an ordinance that says they must register. They do not go after moms and dads who own a

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property in Riverside. They deal with the banks. The banks don't want a letter going to the FDIC that says they have notified Chase Bank of a foreclosure and they have not paid their registration fee. Pro-Champs has partnered with over 300 in the United States and has a collection rate over 87% on foreclosures and vacancies. He added that they find foreclosures by paying for them. They go to the county courthouse and pay to get every foreclosure listed in the county on a daily basis. He stated their highest paid county in Illinois charges \$500/year. He stated is that can be done by staff, but what they will get is something like Chase Bank issuing foreclosure papers on 123 Lane in Riverside, OH, but the information will not say which Chase Bank. This is the research Pro-Champs does, but most cities don't have the staff to spend the time and do the research. He stated that they will collect for Riverside \$90,000/year minimally. That covers some expense for property maintenance issues like cutting grass and maintaining properties where they write a ticket, don't get paid and the cost is absorbed within the general budget. It also gives the city all the information to contact those banks if they want to buy the properties to rehab and put back on the market to collect real estate tax. They still need to have an aggressive community development department. It has worked in other communities.

Ms. Campbell asked if this was for zombie properties only or any house. Mr. Urban stated he is talking about commercial and residential property in foreclosure. He stated there are some foreclosed, vacant commercial properties in Riverside. He provided an example where a business leaves a commercial property and the landlord just uses the vacant building as a tax write-off, but the city has a big box property that is empty. In the ordinance, they suggest commercial fees be higher than residential to give them enticement to fill the property.

Mr. Denning asked if that was if the whole property was vacant and not if they have like a shopping center where three are vacant and the rest are full. Mr. Urban replied he was correct; it goes by the PIN number, not by actual property. If the PIN number comes up that four out of five retail shops or whatever are occupied, then they do not go after them. The whole entire PIN number has to be vacant and/or in foreclosure.

Ms. Campbell stated her concern was with residential and people unable to afford fixing their house. She asked if they are tagged to fix certain things on their house. Mr. Urban stated they aren't tagging the resident, but the bank. The bank cannot legally pass any registration fees on to the resident. Those who hold a mortgage must maintain payments on time. It does not say in a mortgage document that if there is a fee applied to the property that the resident is responsible. It is up to and only including the owner of the property. The bank still owns a property when there is a mortgage owed. It cannot be passed on to residents. In their data that he showed contact information was for banks, property managers, etc... it does not show who is living in the property. She was concerned about people not being able to fix their properties and needing County Corp to help or something. Mayor Williams stated that is not what he is talking about.

Mr. Urban stated there are over 5,000 rentals in Riverside, which is a lot for a town of its size of 25,000. He stated the majority of police and fire calls are probably from rental properties. If there is an issue, while a resident may be living there, the issue should be dealt with by an owner and the resident has no clue how to reach those people. A rental registration will provide staff with access to the name and address of the landlord. In the best practice ordinance supplied to Riverside it says clearly if the owner of the property lives farther than 50 miles away, they must have a property manager and provide the name, address, phone, and email to the property manager that lives within 50 miles so that staff knows who to contact. It is harder as there is no way to buy a list other than one. They buy a list from the United States Postal Service that tells them whether some of the properties are rentals. The other way they acquire the information is through MLS listing. The third way is to work with city staff as they are able to identify where an apartment complex is. They provide the address and Pro-Champs does the research and posts the information in their program. They are trying to help staff to deal with property management issues and make the community development department more efficient and effective.

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He added that they identified nine short-term rentals in Riverside. The problem with short-term rentals is that someone is renting a property short term for a few days to participate in some criminal activity. The neighbors suffer and police get phone calls. He does not think they need to address this today. He just wants to show the city how they can help the community development department with vacancies, foreclosures and long-term rental. They may need to revisit short-term rentals at a later date.

Mrs. Franklin asked about the owners not within 50 miles if that is who they will put on the rental registry. Mr. Urban replied stated they are looking to target all rental properties. In the ordinance it will say if a person owns a property and are renting it, then they must register, and/or if they live more than 50 miles away, then they should hire a property manager. That person should be within 50 miles so if someone needs to be reached that person is onsite and can deal with the situation. He provided the city with best practice ordinances that the city can redline and rewrite; he just asked once changes have been made before being passed that they look at them to be sure his staff can enforce them. It is the city ordinance and the elected officials get to set the policy.

Mr. Carpenter asked what we were the best practices on the ordinances such as associated fees or the enforcement process. Mr. Urban replied the national average is \$325/semi-annually for foreclosure and vacancy. Some trustees in the past and himself when he was a city manager asked why not charge \$650 annually. Because today Chase bank owns the property in Riverside, but a month from now or even a week from now, all of a sudden, a different bank owns the property. Why wait a year to find out who owns it? Springfield wanted to do it annually, but now they are working with a staff to rewrite their ordinance to semiannual. When it comes to rentals, you don't want to 'bang' potential residents of the community who are landlords. They want to be able to collect a fee so they have the information annually. Pro-Champs retain \$125 for every foreclosed and vacant registration; they also for long-term rental retain \$50. They recommend \$100 for long-term and \$325 for vacant and foreclosed properties. He stated he hasn't asked how much the city budgets to cover maintenance of the properties, but he knows it is more than \$5000 - \$10,000. He added that they ask for a one-year agreement when they vote. On page two, it clearly states that if the city does not want to do business any longer with Pro-Champs they can send an email and in 30 days they can part as friends. Whatever data that has been collected will be forwarded to staff and they walk away. Since 2009, they have only had two communities walk away out of 300.

Revenue Update & Sustainability – Mr. Carpenter provided a chart to show monthly data regarding revenue from June 2020 to February 2021. He stated February was pretty good as income tax was closer to what they are used to pre-COVID-19, and a lot of property tax was received in February. The budget for 2021 was \$1,007,310 each month. Over the last nine months, it has been \$1,072,629 so that is good news.

Ms. Fry asked if there was any explanation for the drop in January. Mr. Carpenter replied they didn't other than possibly the timing of when they received their income tax from CCA. They received them in the beginning of February so they weren't included for January.

Mr. Carpenter stated that regarding sustainability he has had conversations with Ms. Fry and has done some thinking on another way to state the same information. He provided the breakdown of percentages for revenues and operational expenses. The revenues total \$12,091,306 while the expenses total \$12,571,793. This is about a \$500,000 difference. He provided council with some items they could defer until June to see how the budget looks then. Included in that was \$90,000 that was negotiated in early 2020, which cuts the deficit about 20%. The revenue numbers are closer to 2019 numbers. That means they need to reduce the overall budget by about 4%. He presented across the board reductions: \$77,684 in administration; \$70,350 in service; \$41,128 on infrastructure; \$119,252 in the fire department; and \$172,073 in the police department. He stated that from 2016 – 2019 the average revenue growth in just operational budget was almost \$10.9 million. During the

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same time period, the average expenses had a \$9,000 difference. They may have started some years with a deficit, but after it is all said and done they don't have that as there is some savings through estimated projects or personnel left and the entire budgeted amount was not spent; there are various reasons as to why cost came close to revenues. During that time, actual revenue growth was about \$374,000/year. With the information he has shared showing the 15% increase in health insurance, 2% in operations, and 2.5% in personnel, that estimate grows by \$841,000. The deficit is actually very close to what the 2021 deficit is, -\$467,396. They can expect this almost every year unless they stop doing some work and cut 4% what they normally do.

Mr. Carpenter showed an org chart that all departments feel would take their operations and services to the next level. He provided a table which broke down the current positions, additional positions, and a total number of positions. Administration would then cost \$657,000. Taking the fire department to all full-time would cost \$3,136,000. The service department would cost \$670,000; and the police department would cost \$460,000. This would take the staffing from 74 to 115. It would cost almost \$5 million to get to the next level. The infrastructure number that he took from doing some ICMA benchmarking. For a city of their size, they would need about \$18 million to operate. This comes close to the number he showed adding \$5 million worth of people they come close to around \$17 million in operation and then need to add in some additional infrastructure work. Spending per capita for fire and EMS, they are about \$1 million short of what the average is across the country. On the 140 park acres they have, it is estimated to spend around \$190,000; they budget \$38,600, but it doesn't include labor costs for maintenance. Paving rehab per lane mile according to ICMA should be near \$900,000. This year, they are spending around \$416,000, but a bulk of that is from permissive tax. Full time employees per 1,000 is about 9.5/capita/thousand, which means Riverside should have 237 employees. We are only nine square miles so don't have as much territory to cover, plus we don't offer some of the services. Sworn fire and EMS is like three/thousand; Riverside has about 19. It doesn't include all the FTE with the PT, so maybe add another 11. With the sworn police, the average is 52.5, we are at 30 sworn police. They need to consider if they are putting something on the ballot they need to discuss what that would be.

Ms. Campbell asked what he suggested putting on the ballot. Mr. Carpenter replied they should look at a 1% income tax increase to go to 2.5%, but that would include giving back the tax credit. The ballpark is about \$3 million. It would allow them to be sustainable for at least the next 10 years and going to the next level of service. Ms. Fry stated that she heard adding those positions would make them whole, not just the next level. Right now, they are hobbling along, they aren't trying to reach for the stars; they are trying to be whole. Mr. Carpenter replied she was right as they are juggling a lot with the amount of staff and there are a lot of expectations. They struggle with having the people, money, and time to get those things done. Taking it to the next level would allow them to increase efficiencies and actually pursue projects more aggressively than they can. Mrs. Franklin stated it would improve the quality of the services. With additional revenue, they have the ability to focus on tasks like improving the parks and doing a better job with improving the roads; and decreasing the stress and some of the hardships on the people who work in Riverside some of which live here as well. She views it as giving the city some of the nurture and love it should get. They all understand it costs money and as residents they have to start to provide that so council can give the tools to the city to give back to the community.

Ms. Fry stated that the slide on the projections distills it down to its core essence; they can expect to have to make \$500,000 year over year without some sort of adjustment. The adjustment doesn't have to come entirely from an income tax or levy, that we can be accomplishing that with different policies like changing zoning to increase residency for a bigger population. A multi-pronged approach is what she foresees, but \$500,000 year over year of reduced services is striking. Mr. Carpenter added that it also includes deferred maintenance. It does not help them to move forward.

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Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch thanked Mr. Carpenter for the report and added that it doesn't even address paving roads. Mr. Carpenter stated it maintains what they have now. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated they need to make that clear. Mr. Carpenter stated there is a limited amount of road repair. This year they have to do the Harshman wall, and are using permissive tax to do some of the paving, but it is limited on what they can do. It depends on year-to-year what the current emergency is. Ms. Fry stated on the 'next level' slide, infrastructure is a line item with \$3.7 million. She recalled it was from when they put the road levy on the ballot that is very close to the number they discussed what it would cost to have sustainable roads and having it covered, \$3.5 million/year. Mr. Carpenter replied that is based on if they had revenues around \$20 million/year; 17% of that number allows them to get more dollars to do infrastructure. The 17% is roughly what they are doing with the tax credit. Ms. Fry stated that it is then somewhere in between because what he is proposing with the income tax would not give them all of the \$8 million. Mr. Carpenter replied that is the problem; they need a lot more, but need to be reasonable.

Mr. Denning asked if a 1% tax, giving back the .5% credit would give them about \$3 million. Mr. Carpenter replied it would, roughly. Mr. Denning stated it would put their revenue number at around 15; the pie chart shows them a little more than 12. They would still be about \$5 million short. Police and fire revenue are 42%, but it is 58% of what is put out so to get those numbers closer together, if they put a 1% on then that 1% should go to police and fire so that it can bring their income up to what they are spending. And, borrowing less from the general fund. Ms. Fry asked if it would give them a full-time fire department. Mr. Carpenter replied no, not totally. The staffing alone is another \$3 million. Ms. Fry stated that is our most pressing concern and if they are deciding what additional tax would translate into services that seems the most urgent – fire. Mr. Carpenter stated if they dedicated the income tax to police and fire it would be a tremendous help, but the general fund will still have to contribute to get them up where they need to be for at least fire. It is a process. Mr. Denning stated that it is a transition to full-time and the SAFER grants help them with that. It will give them time to get things in a row so some of the streets can get done and then afford to pay for the fire fighters after the SAFER grant. Discussion was held on the SAFER grant and the fire fighters it covers and for how long.

Ms. Fry stated since they do not know the impact of COVID-19 funds on the budget, she is hesitant to support going to the voters this year as with the road levy last year the voters came back with the gas tax money. It was hard to address because they didn't know what that would be. It muddled the waters. She is afraid of it happening this time and making it clear they need the money. Mr. Denning disagreed and stated that the money from the federal government is for one year. They are looking at long term and if they don't get this in place within the next year, they will be so far behind they won't catch up. With the money they get from the federal government, it will be important that they show transparency on how they spend it. This is a long-term issue. If they don't put in a police and fire levy or something; the 42% income, but 58% spending kind of surprised me.

Mr. Carpenter stated that early on the OML contacted cities on what they may receive from the federal government. The estimate for Riverside is \$4.6 million, which is fantastic. We expect to learn more within the next week or two. He read where it could be over two years, split in half; and then they need to know what strings are attached. The way he understands it is the money will go to the state and then to the municipalities that are less than 50,000 in population. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated anything voted on this calendar year they won't see until the next of the following year. If they put it off and don't vote on it until 2022, then they see nothing until 2023. It is kicking the can down the road. Discussion was held on presenting information to the public. Mr. Carpenter stated that there are a lot of projections coming for the city that will have matching funds, and they will continually fight the battle. The additional federal funds are great, but they are temporary. Mayor Williams stated he doesn't want to give the impression that it isn't, but hearing the number this morning, he thought the rest of council should know as they go through deliberation. Last year they received about \$1.5 million. Mr. Carpenter stated that nearly \$1.1 - \$1.2 million

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was used on personnel. Mayor Williams stated they are now looking at a factor of 3x that; there will be things these funds will allow them to do. Mr. Denning stated they need to know where the strings are and where they can use general fund money on other things if these funds have strings. Mayor Williams stated this information gives them an opportunity to make a decision and to do some things when they have a better idea of this funding and what it will allow them to do to show the residents what they can do with it. There can be tremendous strings, but it could also allow them to alleviate other areas of the budget that are overworked to cover other things and give the residents some of what they have been asking for.

Mrs. Franklin discussed the SAFER grant they currently have and then adding more fire fighters with another SAFER grant. This is something else they need to understand that the city tax increase that is where the long term is they are discussing. She believes there will be some strings attached, but depending on how strict they are, it gives them an opportunity. This is a one-time thing. The city tax will look at a long term.

Ms. Fry stated that is where they need to put their attention as that is an expense they know is coming. They have some time to prepare. She understands her preference for the income tax, but if they focus on fully funding the fire department and alleviate the dependency on the other monies that subsidize the fire department, then she thinks that is something they can take and provide clarity to the voters on.

Ms. Campbell asked what the money from zombie houses is going to be used for and where will it go. Mr. Carpenter replied it is set up to go to the general fund, but he would like to reinvest that to the community development department as that is where the work is. Mrs. Franklin stated when they begin to improve the services within the city that improves the services the departments can perform and it plays into economic development and driving businesses and helping revitalize streets. That is the part that gets lost. The money that comes in as a whole can improve the city as a whole through every department and every person then begins to feel that. Her focus is to improve services so everything starts to benefit. When economic development benefits, then job creation happens.

Ms. Fry asked about setting up the budget committee and when will that happen. Mr. Carpenter stated he was gathering information, but believes he can give her a better idea next week. Ms. Fry asked if that is in the works or do they need to vote on it. Mr. Carpenter stated he believes council would have to vote on that to approve. He feels they will need a work session to talk about guidelines and look at samples in other communities and then get council input and make it into something council would agree upon. Mr. Denning asked if he was looking at June/July. Mr. Carpenter replied he would like to do it before; maybe 60 days. He stated it would be a standing committee.

Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch commented that the clerk did notify them of all the openings they currently have on boards and commissions. They need to be doing some positive outreach in getting those boards filled because if they don't have a quorum they can't meet. She added they all need to be actively working and advertising the vacant positions and not let it lay out there and not move forward. These are all volunteers.

Mr. Carpenter asked if they needed legislation to bring something forward to put it on the ballot, and what would that look like. Mr. Denning asked which ballot was he suggesting. Mr. Carpenter stated his original thought was this November, but he wondered if they would need more time to get that word out and have a better understanding from the residents that this is to sustain us going further. These stimulus dollars are not the solution. He does not know how successful they will be because of the stimulus money. He believes it will be a lot of confusion. Mrs. Franklin stated they may benefit from opening a town hall and presenting and allow for questions for residents to ask questions to better understand. If they do that, they need to run a couple of those prior to explain the numbers. The PowerPoint presentations with graphs make it easier for the general person who doesn't read budgets

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every day. It allows them to better understand where the money is going. Mr. Denning stated the pie charts is one of the best ways to show how money comes in and is spent. The charts show the police and fire don't have as much coming in as they are spending. By showing that putting a tax levy for police and fire, they can show they are trying to fully fund them. He does not know if they can afford to wait another year regardless of the federal funds they will get. His question is whether or not they do it in August or in November. Mr. Carpenter replied they still need to do it, but it will be a tough sell. Mr. Denning stated they need to get the information out for the people. They need to state this is the way it is and this is where the money is getting spent. They don't have money to do the streets because they need to fund police and fire. If residents want to have money for the streets, then they need to fully fund the police and fire. They need to put it out there and let the voters make that decision. Mrs. Franklin stated she is with Mr. Denning on this as there is never a perfect time. If they take it out a year, something else could happen. Ms. Fry asked if they would delay it three months. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch replied then they would not get the money until 2023. Mayor Williams stated this is a once in a pandemic opportunity that they got \$1.5 million last spring and \$4.5 million this spring. It is \$6.0 million in free money and they want to ask for a tax increase. He wants to know how it plays out. No one can argue that they don't need it, but do they need it this moment. Ms. Fry stated the thing creating the pressure is the expiration of the SAFER grant. Mr. Carpenter stated they already have the pressure with or without, but that is going to increase the amount they are going to have to come up with going forward. Next year, they will get less money for those three firefighters next year; and then they will get zero in 2023. Ms. Fry stated she would like the commission to weigh in on these things though it may not be possible. Discussion was held on when things needed to be to the board of elections. If it is a levy then they need to go to the auditor first; if an income tax then there is a referendum. Council needs to pass legislation. Mrs. Franklin stated it doesn't bother her if they can't get it on the November ballot, but they can't continue to push it further down much longer. To her it is not an emotional issue. They have an option when they see it on the ballot.

Mr. Denning stated he is concerned about kicking it down the road because they don't know when the next library levy or Five Rivers Metro park levy or school levy will be on the ballot and then are they juggling against that and they lose out.

Mr. Burkholder stated that another pressure in order for Wright Point to be a success is for the city to start paying or maybe even pay some of the back rent due for the space they are in. The rent will be an added revenue source that will help turn Wright Point around. If they make up what is owed from the time they occupied and pay rent going forward, this windfall won't sustain that as it will be used for other things. As they go forward, it is critical to try and get the increase as soon as possible as that is the key to sustainability. He stated he supports the 1% and feels that is going to be needed as the presentation clearly points out that even with that there is a ways to go. Mr. Teaford asked what they decided on would be a payment for Wright Point. Mr. Burkholder replied there has been no decision and he will need to talk to council on that. Mr. Teaford stated he knows they need to do something, but he is not a fan of back paying for three to four years. That is using that money for something in the past they don't need to worry about. They need to go forward with it. Mr. Burkholder replied that with the city paying on the rent rolls, it increases the capital value in the building. Mrs. Franklin stated if they were to sell the buildings and stayed there they would have to pay rent.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Mr. Teaford stated they have had a lot of conversation with the COVID-19 money, but he still thinks they need to go forward with putting something on the ballot pretty much as soon as they can. This money should help them the things they need to get done without going into debt anymore as they have borrowed more money to fix the two buildings. This is a windfall that they should take care of and try to get the people to understand they need to have some type of levy whether police and fire or an income tax to put this city forward instead of every month worrying about what they will pay and what they will not pay.

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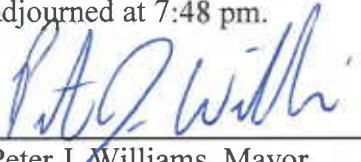
Mayor Williams stated he received the second COVID-19 shot and a wonderful job by Mad River Local Schools. He thanked all involved; they were able to get a lot of people working in schools both shots in the month of February.


Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch congratulated the Stebbins Academic Team for their success and hope the Carroll Women are successful tomorrow morning at UD as I believe that is a big step toward the state championship. She is encouraged that Dan in the plat has approached her and others sitting there about getting involved in a city cleanup. She hopes they can help facilitate that. She did observe that they had staff out with pickers picking up trash along fence line along Wright-Patt. She hopes at some point when things loosen up they can get help from the county to keep Woodman Drive cleaned up. The prisoners always did it and they like getting out and it kept Woodman and Harshman clean. She does not know who facilitates that, but they need to not pay staff to go out and pick up people's trash. She thanked staff for the work they did. She found out from the Chamber and the Jaycees that May 8, 2021 is the shredder day. Mr. Denning said it was possibly April 24. They are trying to keep it around Earth Day for trash pickup and shred your stuff that same weekend. Maybe they could plant a tree day as well. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated that people are wanting another bulk item trash day as well, possibly in the fall. The Jaycees have been a large part of manning the shredder day and it has been successful. It will be here before they know it so they need to advertise. She is in favor of moving forward with Pro-Champs as well. Mayor Williams replied he believed that is planned. Mr. Carpenter stated it is under legal review right now. The ordinance is being reviewed along with the contract. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch stated they can't wait another six months to a year. Mr. Burkholder stated it is contingent how long Dalma needs to look at it. They will come back to council for how much they will charge. They are looking at all three, foreclosure, vacant property, and rental. Mr. Denning asked if the county already has rental registration. Mr. Carpenter replied they do, but there is not a lot of enforcement or follow up.

Ms. Fry thanks the city manager for the presentation and all of council for a productive discussion. She knows she has been vocal and impatient about talking about sustainability.

Mr. Denning thanked the manager about the news of the \$4.5 million. It will be helpful along with everyone getting their stimulus checks because people will be spending money and help get businesses going again. He thanked the Montgomery County Health Department as he went and got his first shot Wednesday. It went smoothly; he was very impressed it went as quickly as it did. Watch the county website and get an appointment to get your vaccine; it is easy to do. His wife's surgery is tomorrow and asked for them to be kept in their hearts and prayers.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Campbell motioned to adjourn. Deputy Mayor Lommatzsch seconded the motion. All were in favor; none were opposed. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.


Peter J. Williams, Mayor


Clerk of Council